

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

FIT Council travels to Montreal to celebrate OTTIAQ milestone



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES TRADUCTEURS

La voix des associations de traducteurs, d'interprètes et de terminologues à travers le monde

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TRANSLATORS

The voice of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world

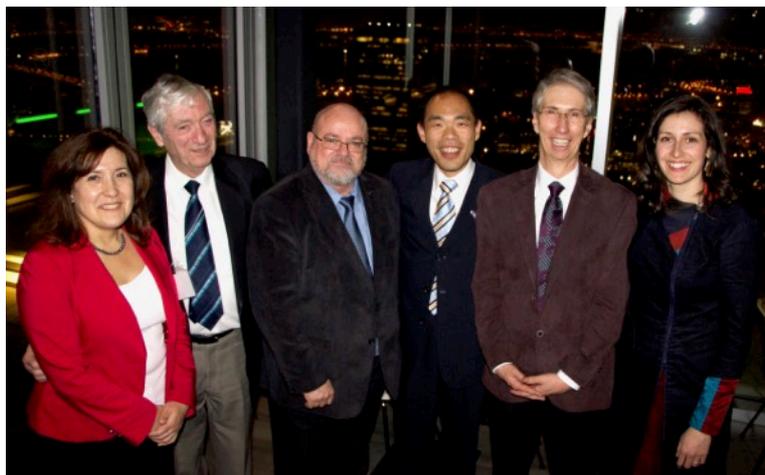
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J-F Joly (7th), B Cohen (10th) and H Liu (13th, current) Presidents of FIT; OTTIAQ Board and FIT Council; meeting with PEN Quebec President L Jolicoeur at OTTIAQ HQ

Following the successful visibility event in Ottawa (see separate Press Release), and two days of Council Meeting, members of the FIT Council saw the beautiful sunrise as they took the dawn train to Montreal.

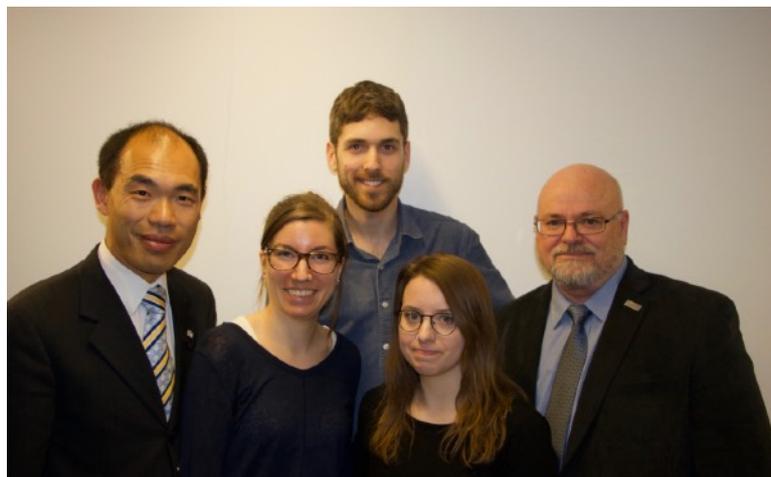
At the Gare centrale de Montréal, Members of FIT Council were warmly welcomed by OTTIAQ Chairman of the Board Réal Paquette and Chair of the FIT Regional Centre for North America - Michel Parent.



FIT President and OTTIAQ Board members

The FIT delegation was then taken to Hotel Bonaventure nearby - another proposed venue for the XXII World Congress in 2020, where members of the Investment Task Force were welcomed by Tourisme Montréal Vice President Michel Bourdon and then accompanied by Chairman Paquette and Cynthia St-Louis of Tourisme Montréal on a guided tour of the facilities including the grand ballroom and the breakout rooms.

Following the venue visit, the FIT delegation were taken across town via lightning metro to the University of Montreal campus where President Liu gave a lecture on the future of translation and the risk of automated translation and big data kindly organised by OTTIAQ Chairman and retired



FIT President and OTTIAQ Chairman with some of the winners of Jeux de la traduction at University of Montreal

teacher of UofM, Réal Paquette. The lecture hall was packed and the audience included the 7th FIT President Jean-François Joly, members of OTTIAQ Board, ordinary members of OTTIAQ, teaching staff and students of UofM.

Guests of OTTIAQ and members of FIT Council then discussed in depth issues pertinent to OTTIAQ and to our profession in Quebec over lunch kindly hosted by OTTIAQ.

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Following lunch, the FIT delegation returned to OTTIAQ HQ where there was a formal meeting with the President of PEN Quebec and author of the Quebec Declaration, Professor Louis Jolicoeur. This meeting was kindly organised following President Liu's historical visit to PEN International Headquarters in London in February. In this meeting, the two world organisations gained a better understanding of each other and discussed the importance of respecting translators as authors and the protection of our rights. It also explored how the two organisations can work together on this in the future and other areas of common interest.



FIT President Henry Liu with OTTIAQ Chairman Réal Paquette and Cynthia St-Louis of Tourisme Montréal following her presentation on Montreal as host of the XXII World Congress in 2020.

In the evening of this auspicious day coinciding with the International Francophonie Day, OTTIAQ hosted a cocktail function welcoming FIT delegation whilst FIT proudly features in OTTIAQ's year long 25th anniversary celebration. President Liu stressed that OTTIAQ HQ has been the heart of FIT for many years hosting our Secretariat and OTTIAQ and its previous incarnation has punched well above its weight in FIT including two Presidents - Jean-Francois Joly (7th President) and Betty Cohen (10th President), who graced us with their presence and gave further evidence of the heritage and strong foundations upon which FIT is built thus allowing this mandate to advance and take bolder steps to protect the rights of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world.

President Liu and FIT would especially like to thank Chairman Paquette and his talented Board and most importantly OTTIAQ Chief Executive Officer Diane Cousineau for their generous support and hospitality in making this visit such an unparalleled success to OTTIAQ and to FIT.

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